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Motoaki Nishikawa

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SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20037

EXAMINER

DANIELS, MATTHEW J

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 17 June 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive or are moot as directed to claim amendments which are not being entered. The arguments appear to be on the following grounds:

- a) Goeb fails to disclose the exposure of the protective sheet, and therefore the rejections of Claims 1 and 18 should be withdrawn.
- b) Applicant concedes that Hughes discloses etching away part of the undercoat layer, but argues that Hughes teaches away from exposing a paper sheet.
- c) Other references fail to compensate for the deficiencies of Hughes and Ward.

2. These arguments are not persuasive or moot for the following reasons:

- a) This argument is directed at claim amendments which are not being entered, and is therefore moot.
- b) The arguments are drawn to claim amendments which are not being entered, and is therefore moot. Also note that under 37 CFR 41.33(b)(2), amendments may be admitted to rewrite dependent claims into independent form. However, the proposed amendments to Claims 1 and 18 would change the scope of all dependent claims and require further consideration. Also note that the arguments are non-responsive to the rejections of Claims 24 and 25 aside from their dependence on Claims 1 and 18, respectively.
- c) Other rejections are maintained as set forth in the final rejection, and these arguments do not particularly argue against the rejections of these claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MATTHEW J. DANIELS whose telephone number is (571)272-2450. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Johnson can be reached on (571) 272-1176. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Matthew J. Daniels/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1791
6/25/08